

# OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER

## APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM

### FISCAL YEAR 2011

#### Instructions

1. Please complete the entire form. **All fields are required.**
2. Please do not **bold**, underline, or *italicize* responses.
3. Request forms must be submitted as a Word document.
4. All completed request forms and any supplemental materials must be submitted via email to: [Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov](mailto:Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov)
5. Please do not send more than one request per email.
6. All completed request forms must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 26, 2010.**
7. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your request within 48 hours of submission, please contact Stephanie Cappa in Congressman Blumenauer's Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-4811.

*PLEASE NOTE: All appropriations requests submitted to Congressman Blumenauer's office will be made public on his website, as required by the House Committee on Appropriations.*

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#### Project Details

**1. Project title:**

Columbia River Contaminants Monitoring

**2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds):**

U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior

**3. Contact information**

- a. **Project's primary contact:** Mark Walker, Director of Public Affairs, Northwest Power & Conservation Council, Portland, OR
- b. **Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** (503) 222-5161
- c. **Email Address:** [mwalker@nwcouncil.org](mailto:mwalker@nwcouncil.org)
- d. **Project location** (if different than organization's address): Lower Columbia River (OR & WA)

**4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.**

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council is a congressionally authorized interstate compact that performs energy planning for the Pacific Northwest and also develops a program to protect, mitigate and enhance all and wildlife affected by the Columbia River hydroelectric system. The Council is not the recipient of the funds, nor will it be involved in any way in the expenditure of the funds. The Council is merely bringing this significant funding shortfall contained in the U.S. Geological Survey's FY 2011 budget to the attention of Congressman Blumenauer and other members of the Northwest congressional delegation.

**5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?**

The Council is a public agency comprised of the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington.

**6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?**

We are requesting additional funds for the U.S. Geological Survey's Hydrologic Networks and Analysis, National Stream Quality Accounting Network program.

**7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).**

The Columbia River Estuary is degraded with a host of contaminants including PCBs, PAHs and DDT. Several pesticides have also been detected including atrazine and simazine, which can affect salmon behavior. Emerging contaminants, such as hormone disruptors from pharmaceutical and personal care products, have been found in river water and in juvenile male salmon. Currently, the U.S. Geological Survey has only a single monitoring site on the river. To do an adequate job, the Survey should have at least 5 more water quality monitoring sites. This will allow for an assessment of water quality trends in toxics concentrations and loads. Similar trends assessments can be conducted for contaminant residues measured in tissues of fish and fish-eating birds. Also, a monitoring network will assist in an understanding of sources of contaminants entering the main stem Columbia River. This is the type of information that will generate important feedback to water managers and policy makers responsible for restoration activities within the Columbia River Basin. New monitoring stations annually cost approximately \$110,000 each.

In addition, the U.S. Geological Survey should be a more active participant with the EPA and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership in implementing the Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy Action Plan and the Comprehensive Management Action Plan. Unfortunately, the Service does not have adequate funds in its FY 2011 budget for the needed level of participation. The service needs an additional \$300,000 in FY 2011 to be an active participant in these important estuary-related activities.

**8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?**

The purpose of the project is to increase the U.S. Geological Survey's FY 2011 budget to allow it to do a better job of monitoring contaminants in the Lower Columbia River. Contaminants in the river present a danger to fish and wildlife populations, including endangered species such as Columbia River salmon and steelhead. The Service's efforts will assist EPA and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership in efforts to reduce toxics in the Columbia River.

**9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?**

Yes, this is an ongoing federal agency activity, not a special project.

**9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.**

A very modest level of funding has been provided in previous years from the U.S. Geological Survey's Hydrological Networks and Analysis, National Stream Quality Accounting Network account for this work. In the current FY 2011 budget request, only about \$80,000 is being requested for contaminant monitoring. This is not sufficient to even fully operate the single monitoring site on the river.

### **Funding Details**

#### **10. Amount requested for this project:**

a) Contaminant Monitoring: An addition to the current Hydrologic Networks and Analysis, National Stream Quality Accounting Network program budget of at least \$30,000 to adequately fund the single existing contaminant monitoring site, and up to an additional \$550,000 to fully fund five new monitoring sites on the Columbia River.

b) Full participation with EPA and the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership in implementing the Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy: An addition to the Survey's Hydrologic Networks and Analysis Account of \$300,000.

#### **11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):**

If provided, these funds will supplement existing, on-going U.S. Geological Survey programs. Therefore, we do not have access to this level of federal agency budgetary information.

#### **12. What is the total cost of the project?**

A total of \$850,000 is required annually (\$550,000 for water quality monitoring stations and \$300,000 for helping to implement the Columbia River Toxics Reduction Strategy).

#### **13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011)?**

Yes.

#### **14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)**

We are not aware of any other sources that are contributing funds to the U.S. Geological Survey for its work for these activities.

#### **15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.**

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

**Please return this form no later than Friday, February 26, 2010 via email to:**

**Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov**

***Washington, D.C. Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Stephanie Cappa, 202-225-4811, [Stephanie.Cappa@mail.house.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Cappa@mail.house.gov)***

***Oregon Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, 503-231-2300, [Sarah.Masterson@mail.house.gov](mailto:Sarah.Masterson@mail.house.gov)***